

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

August 24, 2006

Maricopa Association of Governments Office  
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Saguaro Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Maricopa County: Mike Ellegood,  
Chairperson  
ADOT: Bill Hayden for Dan Lance  
Avondale: David Fitzhugh  
Buckeye: Thomas Chlebanowski for  
Scott Lowe  
Chandler: Dan Cook for Patrice Kraus  
\*El Mirage: B.J. Cornwall  
Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel  
\*Gila Bend: Lynn Farmer  
\*Gilbert: Tami Ryall  
Glendale: Robert Darr for Terry Johnson  
\*Goodyear: Cato Esquivel  
Guadalupe: Jim Ricker

\*Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis  
# Mesa: Jim Huling  
Paradise Valley: Robert M. Cicarelli  
Peoria: David Moody  
Phoenix: Don Herp for Tom Callow  
\*Queen Creek: Mark Young  
RPTA: Bryan Jungwirth  
Scottsdale: Mary O'Connor  
Surprise: Randy Overmyer  
Tempe: Carlos De Leon  
\*Wickenburg: Shane Dille  
\*Valley Metro Rail: John Farry

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

\*Regional Bicycle Task Force: Randi Alcott,  
RPTA  
\*Street Committee: Darryl Crossman, City  
of Litchfield Park

Pedestrian Working Group: Eric Iwersen,  
City of Tempe  
\*ITS Committee: Alan Sanderson

\* Members neither present nor represented by proxy. + - Attended by Videoconference  
# - Attended by Audioconference

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Anderson, MAG  
Roger Herzog, MAG  
Ken Hall, MAG  
Paul Ward, MAG  
Steve Tate, MAG  
Kevin Wallace, MAG  
Lynn Timmons, City of Phoenix  
Dave Meinhardt, City of Scottsdale  
Stuart Boggs, Valley Metro/RPTA

Bob Antila, Valley Metro/RPTA  
Kwi-Kang Sung, ADOT  
David Schwartz, Goodman Schwartz  
Bob Hazlett, MAG  
Eileen Yazzie, MAG  
Jim Creedon, Landry and Creedon  
Catherine Lewis-Strong, MCDOT  
Thilo Becker  
Dallas Gold

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mike Ellegood called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of June 29, 2006 Draft Minutes

Addressing the first order of business, Mr. Ellegood asked if there were any changes or amendments to the meeting minutes. Mr. Bryan Jungwirth moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Dave Fitzhugh seconded, and the minutes were subsequently approved by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Mr. Ellegood stated that he had not received any request to speak cards from the audience, and moved on to the next item on the agenda.

4. Transportation Director's Report

Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, to provide the Transportation Director's report. Mr. Anderson addressed the issue of increasing construction costs and their overall impact on freeway construction in Arizona. Mr. Anderson stated that he has been tracking the costs of asphalt, cement and other materials utilizing national data from the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Composite Index for Highway Construction Costs. Mr. Anderson then handed out a sheet entitled *Percentage Changes in Producer Price Indexes (PPIs) for Construction Materials and Components, 2001-2006*, and informed the Committee that between July 2005 and July 2006, there was a 14 percent increase in material shortages for construction. Mr. Anderson then described his concerns pertaining to material shortages and rising construction costs to those in attendance, and addressed the potential impacts that these trends could ultimately have on future projects in the region. Mr. Anderson referenced a bid opening that was scheduled to take place in the City of Tucson on August 31<sup>st</sup> for a freeway widening project along I-10. He said that the I-10 widening was originally estimated to be a \$193 million project, but due to increasing costs, it was now projected to cost well over \$200 million.

Mr. Anderson then informed the Committee that sales tax revenues for FY 2006 were over 15 percent higher than the previous year. He noted that the collection has experienced double digit growth each month, and was up by 10.3 percent for the first month of FY 2007. Mr. Anderson then informed the Committee that the legislature recently appropriated \$307 million dollars to establish the Statewide Transportation Acceleration Need (STAN) account, which is intended to provide funding in an effort to advance ADOT projects. Mr. Anderson stated that of the \$307 million, a total of \$185 million, or approximately 60 percent of available funding was provided to the MAG Region. He said that this issue would be addressed before the MAG Transportation Policy Committee in September, and that MAG was hoping to have a list of candidate projects completed by the end of October 2006.

Mr. Anderson then informed the Committee about the recent League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference in Tucson. He said that during the conference, representatives from the Arizona Councils of Governments held a joint meeting, and the topic was entitled "Building a Quality Arizona." Mr. Anderson said that the primary topic of the meeting had to do with identifying methods of generating more money for transportation infrastructure throughout the state. He said that some of the discussions were centered around topics on how to fix the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF), assessing regional impact fees, and the possible creation of a new revenue source, such as a half-cent dedicated sales tax for transportation.

Mr. Anderson then informed those in attendance that MAG had received three statements of qualification for the Commuter Rail Study, and provided a brief overview of the Hassayampa Valley Study. He also noted that Glendale is interested in accelerating a minor arterial project, and that last week Thursday, MAG conducted a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Agency Stakeholders Consultation Meeting. There were no questions, and this concluded Mr. Anderson's report to the Committee.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood addressed Agenda item #6 (ADOT Red Letter Process), Agenda item #7 (Approval of the FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program), and Agenda item #8 (Programming the FY 2008 - 2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program), and asked whether any members in attendance had questions concerning these items. Mr. David Moody moved to recommend approval of the Consent Agenda. Mr. Bob Cicarelli seconded, and the motion was approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee.

9. Amendment to the FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Paul Ward, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, to provide an overview of the FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Ward addressed the Committee, and distributed a handout for the FY 2007-2011 MAG TIP Requested Transit Changes, which displayed a listing of transit projects that were deferred, deleted, or added as new projects. Mr. Ward then called the Committee's attention to the handout in Attachment Number Two, and stated that an amendment is required to add the new projects on the list. He discussed four projects in the City of Tempe, and reported that Tempe had requested to defer three projects and then to combine all three into one project in FY 2007, which releases approximately \$3.5 million in additional funding for all remaining projects, with the majority of funds going to light rail. He informed the Committee that he was notified about two and a half weeks ago that the City of Phoenix's Hatcher Road Project from 19th Avenue to Cave Creek Road had received federal funds. Mr. Ward stated that, as part of the transit changes, the City of Phoenix had deleted a heavy maintenance facility, and in FY 2007, it was added for design.

Discussion followed concerning what projects would be funded next in line, and Mr. Ward informed the Committee that all of the remaining projects on the list would likely be funded and

that the standard procedure for any unutilized obligation authority would be to loan ADOT the funds, and get the funds back next year. Following further discussion, Ms. Mary O'Connor moved to recommend approval of a TIP amendment and administrative adjustment to the FY 2007-2011 TIP as presented. Mr. Bryan Jungwirth seconded, and the motion was approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee.

10. Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) Status Report

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Ms. Eileen O'Connell, MAG Transportation Planner, who provided an overview of the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP). Ms. O'Connell stated that the City of Chandler recently sent two project reimbursement requests to MAG for \$500,000 and \$13,000, and that the City of Peoria also submitted a request for \$7.0 million dollars. Ms. O'Connell said that she was optimistic over the amounts that were disbursed to cover the projects, and that she was looking forward to the program moving forward with additional project reimbursement requests over the next several months.

Ms. O'Connell then called the Committee's attention to the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) Status Report in Attachment Three, and informed those in attendance that the report covered the time period from April to June of 2006. Ms. O'Connell said that "actual vs. estimated" Regional Area Road Fund (RARF) collections from April to June are 8.8% higher. She addressed the FY 2007 ALCP Schedule on page 3, and also addressed the completed schedules at the end of the document, which detail the status of all projects currently underway in the program. Ms. O'Connell also informed the Committee that she is currently in the process of developing the guidelines for the Arterial Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program, which was programed in the MAG Regional Transportation Plan to receive \$50.0 million, or an amount of approximately \$5.0 to \$5.5 million in inflated dollars from the ALCP program between FY 2008 to FY 2018. Ms. O'Connell stated that she would have the completed ITS guidelines by the end of the month. There were no questions or comments, and this concluded Ms. O'Connell's presentation to the Committee.

11. 2006 Annual Report on the Status of the Implementation of Proposition 400

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Roger Herzog, MAG Senior Project Manager, to provide an update on the 2006 Annual Report on the Status of the Implementation of Proposition 400. Mr. Herzog called the Committee's attention to the screen at the front of the room, and stated that ARS 28-6354 requires MAG to annually issue a report on the status of projects funded through Proposition 400. Mr. Herzog stated that the document reports changes to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the plan priorities, and provides information on the status of project financing and project completion. Mr. Herzog informed the Committee that MAG has tentatively scheduled a Public Hearing on the Annual Report, which will be held at MAG on October 19, 2006.

Mr. Herzog stated that the Annual Report provides an update on the status of the Freeway/Highway, Arterial and Transit Life Cycle Programs. When addressing the transportation planning process and items that transpired during FY 2006, Mr. Herzog said that

the Freeway/Highway, Arterial Street and Transit Life Cycle Programs were incorporated directly into the MAG RTP. He noted that during 2006, MAG initiated several transportation studies that were intended to serve as resources for potential future RTP updates. He then addressed the subject of revenues, and informed the Committee that FY 2006 receipts from the Proposition 400 half-cent sales tax were 11.4 percent higher than what was originally projected in the 2005 Annual Report. He stated that forecasts of future available regional revenues are largely unchanged from the 2005 annual report.

Mr. Herzog then called the Committee's attention to a series of slides showing sales tax receipts for FY 2006; revenue forecasts for the half-cent sales tax from FY 2007 - FY 2026; and revenue forecasts for other sources from FY 2006 - FY 2026. He said that the total receipts for FY 2006 were \$152.9 million, and that the projected FY 2006 half-cent sales tax revenues from FY 2007-2026 were estimated at \$14.06 billion dollars. Mr. Herzog also addressed other revenue sources, and said that according to forecasts from FY 2006 to 2026, ADOT 15 percent funds were expected to generate \$2.56 billion; whereas Federal Transit funding was expected to generate \$3.14 billion, and funding from the Federal Highway Administration was expected to generate an additional \$2.39 billion. He also addressed House Bill 2865, which created the Statewide Transportation Acceleration Needs (STAN) Account. MAG's share of the available STAN funding will be approximately \$184 million for projects on the State Highway System.

Mr. Herzog then addressed the Freeway/Highway Program, which has a total estimated build out cost of \$9.8 billion dollars. While addressing Proposition 400, Mr. Herzog also informed the Committee that there has been major progress on completing the existing Proposition 300 Program. Mr. Herzog said that under Proposition 300, the Loop 202 Santan Freeway was completed; the final US 60 Grand Avenue grade separation project was recently completed; and that the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway was scheduled to be completed during mid-2008. Mr. Herzog said that preliminary engineering and environmental analysis have recently been proceeding on Proposition 400 corridors and widenings. He said that as part of Proposition 400, the South Mountain Freeway Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is scheduled to be completed during 2007, and that a number of State Routes and freeways are in the process of preliminary design. He said that projects on I-10 and I-17 were accelerated through HELP and GAN loans, and that during FY 2006, approximately \$56 million was expended on projects in the Proposition 400 Freeway/Highway Program. Of this \$56 million, he noted that the majority of it was used on design. Mr. Herzog then informed the Committee that about \$540 million has been programmed for projects that are scheduled to go to bid for construction in FY 2007. Mr. Herzog stated that on the negative side, cost increases of approximately \$252 million were experienced for projects that are in the Life Cycle Program. He informed the Committee that the estimated future costs of the Freeway/Highway Life Cycle Program are in balance with projected revenues, but in the upcoming year there may be significant additional project cost increases as detailed engineering studies are completed.

Mr. Herzog then addressed the Arterial Streets Program, which was refined and updated during FY 2006. Mr. Herzog said that during FY 2006, a total of \$7 million in reimbursements were distributed to local governments as part of the program, and that it was anticipated that a total of \$56 million would be distributed during FY 2007. He noted that work would be proceeding on a number of arterial street projects over the next five years. He informed the Committee that the estimated future regional disbursements from the Arterial Street Life Cycle Program are in

balance with projected revenues. Mr. Herzog said that the primary issues for FY 2007 has to do with rising construction costs, and the Federal Aid part of the Arterial Street Program, where the mandatory federal approval process may pose scheduling risks for projects receiving federal funds.

Mr. Herzog then addressed the Transit Program, and displayed slides for the Bus Rapid Transit system, the Super Grid Bus System, and the Light Rail Transit (LRT) Minimum Operating Segment. Mr. Herzog informed the Committee that during FY 2006, funding began for 14 existing Express and four existing RAPID bus routes, ADA paratransit service, and customer service and marketing programs. He also stated that 62 new coaches and 19 used coaches were purchased, and that approximately \$66 million was expended on the Transit Life Cycle Program during FY 2006. He stated that a broad range of bus planning studies were started, and that during the next five federal fiscal years, 11 new BRT/Express routes and seven Super Grid routes would be initiated. Mr. Herzog said that construction on the LRT Minimum Operating Segment (MOS) and service is scheduled to be completed by December 2008. He said that studies on how to implement the remaining 37.7 miles of LRT extensions that are part of the plan have already been initiated. He informed the Committee that the estimated future costs of the Transit Life Cycle Program are in balance with projected revenues, but recent trends of escalating wages and fuel processes will increase the pressure on balancing bus service operation costs with available revenues. He also noted that recent increases for right-of-way and construction materials are likely to drive up costs for transit capital facilities. Mr. Herzog then summarized his key points on the Freeway/Highway, Arterial and Transit Life Cycle Programs, and there were no questions or comments from the Committee.

## 12. I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Roadway Framework Study Project Information Overview

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Bob Hazlett, MAG Senior Engineer, who provided an overview of the I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Roadway Framework Study. Mr. Hazlett informed the Committee that there would be a post on the website for the study in the near future, and that the study is basically a southern extension of the I-10 Hassayampa Valley Roadway Study. Mr. Hazlett said that the I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Roadway Framework Study is designed to preserve connections to I-8 and I-10, and State Routes 84 85, 87, 238, and 347. He informed the Committee that the study also included participation from MCDOT, ADOT, Pinal County, Goodyear, Maricopa, Buckeye and Casa Grande. Mr. Hazlett said that there would also be a study review team to oversee the study, and that representatives from the Gila River, Ak-Chin and Tohono O'odham Native American Indian Communities will be invited to participate as part of the study team.

Mr. Hazlett informed the Committee that the purpose of the study was to establish a framework comprised of regional connections and roadways for the southwest area of the MAG Region, and into eastern Pinal County. He said that the study area boundaries basically included Gila River on the north, 459<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the West, south of Interstate 8 on the south, and SR-87 to the east. Mr. Hazlett noted that the Hidden Valley actually connects Pinal and Maricopa counties at SR-238, which is how the study received its name. He also informed the Committee that while the project scope has recently increased from \$200,000 to \$800,000, there was a total amount of \$770,000 committed to date. Mr. Eric Anderson addressed the Committee, and

stated that while the project may increase to a total of \$800,000, MAG's financial commitment to the project will not increase. He also noted that the Native American Indian Communities would have representation on the review team, but would not be asked to financially contribute to the project.

Mr. Hazlett then informed the Committee that prior to the meeting, a map showing the study area was distributed to each member in attendance. Discussion followed, and Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that MAG's model presently includes a major portion of eastern Pinal County. Mr. Anderson stated that MAG was working closely with Pinal County and the Central Arizona Association of Governments to make sure that MAG Traffic Analysis Zones in Pinal County are up to date.

Mr. Anderson also said that MAG is in the process of initiating conversations with Yavapai County. He informed those in attendance that the Northwest Maricopa County/Yavapai County Study will be ready to move forward during the upcoming year, and is designed to establish long range blueprints for transportation in the areas of northern Maricopa and southern Yavapai Counties. Mr. Hazlett then answered a number of questions pertaining to routes included within the study; the willingness of the development community to participate in future meetings; and whether the studies would consider the concept of identifying potential funding sources for highways. There were no further questions, and this concluded Mr. Hazlett's presentation to the Committee.

### 13. Member Agency Update

Mr. Ellegood asked members of the Committee whether they would like to provide member agency updates. Ms. Mary O'Connor addressed the Committee, and requested to be placed on next month's agenda to provide an overview of the Loop 101 Photo Radar Enforcement pilot project in the City of Scottsdale. Mr. Eric Anderson then informed those in attendance that the deadline for submitting projects for the paving of dirt roads is September 8, 2006. Mr. Anderson said that there would be \$1.44 million available in CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) funding during FY 2007 for PM 10 Street Sweepers; \$2.0 million available during 2008; and \$3.5 million available in 2009. He said that they are looking for candidate projects, and requested interested parties to contact Mr. Dean Giles at MAG.

Mr. Ellegood then announced that he is retiring on September 10, 2006, but would like to continue as the TRC Chair. He informed the Committee that he would be taking off for a month, and would then continue to assist Maricopa County in a consultant-type role. He said that while he was away, Mr. Callow will chair the meeting as the TRC Vice Chairperson, and that if he was not able to chair, they could call upon Mr. Dave Fitzhugh from Avondale. Mr. Ellegood also addressed the Town of Queen Creek and his concerns over the growing levels of traffic in the far southeast Valley. He noted that increased traffic in this area has placed a tremendous burden on this area, and that the solution to such issues should include MAG and the TRC Committee. There were no further statements or questions.

14. Next Meeting Date

Mr. Ellegood informed members in attendance that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on September 28, 2006. There being no further business, Mr. Ellegood adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.